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Europäisches
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Zweigstelle
in Den Haag
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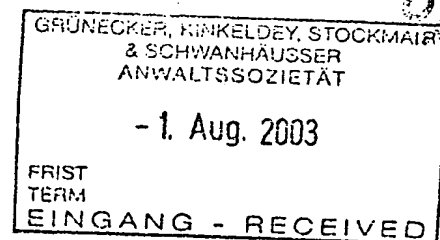
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ALLEMAGNE



Datum/Date 30. 07. 2003

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|---|---|
| Zeichen/Ref./Réf. EP22603-011/gr ✓ | Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. 01124543.8 ✓ |
| Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire ORIGIN ELECTRIC CO. LTD. ✓ | |

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits

- ☒ the European search report
- ☐ the declaration under Rule 45 EPC
- ☐ the partial European search report under Rule 45 EPC
- ☐ the supplementary European search report concerning the international application under Article 157(2) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application. Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division :

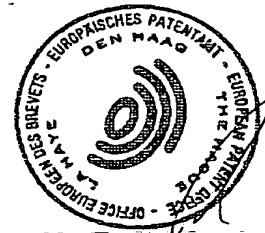
- ☒ Abstract ☒ Title ☒ Figure
- ☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.
- ☐ The following figure will be published with the abstract, since the Search Division considers that it better characterises the invention than the one indicated by the applicant.

Figure:

- ☒ Additional copy(copies) of the documents cited in the European search report.

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



EPO Form 1507 02.93

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| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7) |
| ① A ✓ | US 6 159 572 A (KOBAYASHI TADASHI ET AL) 12 December 2000 (2000-12-12) * column 18, line 51 - column 20, line 6 * | 1 | B29C69/00 B29C71/00 B29D17/00 B29C53/18 |
| ② A ✓ | US 6 136 133 A (MARUYAMA HARUHISA ET AL) 24 October 2000 (2000-10-24) * column 3, line 65; claim 1 * | 1 | |
| ③ A ✓ | EP 0 869 488 A (TOSHIBA EMI KK) 7 October 1998 (1998-10-07) * column 5, line 9 - line 23 * | 1 | |
| ④ X ✓ | EP 0 793 224 A (ORIGIN ELECTRIC) 3 September 1997 (1997-09-03) * column 7, line 8 - line 12; figure 1 * * abstract * | 15 | |
| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) |
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| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 7 July 2003 | Examiner Roberts, P |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS | | | |
| X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document | | T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document | |



European Patent
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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
EP 01 12 4543

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-14

Method of treating a disc plate comprising injection moulding

2. Claims: 15-24

Apparatus for treating a disc plate comprising a conveyor
and a spin driver



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 01 12 4543

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

07-07-2003

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